



Washington State
Conservation
Commission

WATER QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS PROGRAM

2004 Report of Accomplishments



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2004 Report of Accomplishments

Water Quality Implementation Grants Program



Bill Language - Summary

- *The purpose of the Water Quality Implementation Grants Program is to provide funding to conservation districts to plan, design, and implement best management practices, as well as provide outreach activities to control non-point water pollution. These practices must meet the technical standards and specifications of the USDA Field Office Technical Guide. Practice design is done by State Licensed Engineers employed by the districts, or USDA Engineers.*



Governor Gary Locke & Director of Ag, Valoria Loveland visit a conservation district project site

Source of Funding

- *\$3.5 million for the 2003-05 Biennium from the State Building Construction Account*

Distribution of 2003-05 Water Quality Implementation Grants

- *Funding levels for applicants are determined by regional peer evaluations.*
- *Two funding levels, with the higher level being 30% above the lower level, are distributed.*
- *Application that dedicate 60% or more of total project costs to fund implementation activities receive the higher funding level.*
- *These are two year grants in the amounts of \$70,652 (higher level funding) and \$54,348 (lower level funding).*
- *Water Quality Implementation Grants are available only to conservation districts that demonstrate program and money management ability by meeting the Management Standards adopted by the Conservation Commission.*
- *Grant Budgets:*

<i>District Technical Assistance to Landowners</i>	<i>\$1,619,265</i>
<i>District Financial Assistance to Landowners</i>	<i>\$804,128</i>
<i>District Marketing / Outreach Activities</i>	<i>\$330,907</i>
<i>District Project Evaluation / Monitoring</i>	<i>\$147,545</i>
<i>District Other Activities</i>	<i>\$19,016</i>
<i>District Grant Administration</i>	<i>\$454,139</i>
<i>Statewide Envirothon Administration</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>Commission Program Administration (1 FTE)</i>	<i>\$105,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$3,500,000</i>

Rollup of 48 Conservation Districts' Accomplishments (01/01/04 through 12/31/04)

Total number of direct / indirect district contacts made with individuals	235,939
Of the total contacts, number of individuals who initiated conservation plans or practices on their own	762
Of the total contacts, number of individuals who initiated conservation plans or practices using district technical and / or technical assistance	1,280
Total number of conservation / farm plans completed	703
Total number of cooperators who implemented BMPs	1,208
Total number of BMPs implemented	1,284
Of the implemented BMPs, total number of acres that will no longer contribute to surface or groundwater pollution	747,646.14
Of the implemented BMPs, total number of stream miles protected, enhanced or restored	724.76
Total grant amount spent	\$1,408,720.70
Total grant amount spent on technical assistance to cooperators	\$632,921.11
Total grant amount spent on cost share to cooperators	\$289,605.21
Amount of other funding leveraged with this grant	\$1,493,329.15

Individual Conservation District 2004 Accomplishments

■ Adams Conservation District

- *In support of local work group priorities established through the Federal NRCS "EQIP" program combined with a combination of State Department of Ecology and Washington Conservation Commission funds a diverse number of implementation practices were completed through "Americorp" Washington Conservation Corp technical assistance crews installing over 15,000 feet of new fencing, planting approximately 2 miles of riparian corridor habitat improvements and assisting in the installation of several off site watering tanks throughout the eastern most portion of Adams county.*
- *In recognition that 287,000 acres of the WRIA 34 watershed located within the eastern portion of Adams Conservation District is under the direct control of less than 15 landowners, over one third of the agriculture producers were actively participating during the past year in programs directly associated with conservation districts funded or NRCS Federal*



Off site watering tank

programs to address water quality issues by installing over 5 miles of fence and installing over 10 new off site watering areas that will restrict animal grazing of the area waters. "Many additional accomplishments go unreported due to non participatory relationships some ranchers have toward any type of regulatory involvement."

- Asotin County Conservation District

- 240 acres of 2 year direct seed, 279.6 acres of pasture/hayland planting, 3 acres of critical area planting, 4 multi purpose ponds, 2 sediment basins, 3,297 feet of cross fence, 1 spring development, 1 windbreak and 8,100 trees planted. Technical assistance was provided for BMPs implemented.

- Benton Conservation District

- Coordination of Amon Creek restoration and protection efforts between the Cities of Kennewick and Richland, Benton County, Kennewick Irrigation district, Tapteal Greenway organization, and various other entities.
- Development of planting matrix and future development efforts for portions of Columbia Point located on the Columbia River in Richland, WA. Efforts coordinated with Tapteal Greenway, City of Richland, and Benton County.
- Assisted in construction of 400 linear feet of streambank stabilization and revegetation along the Lower Yakima River in cooperation with David & Vali Mitchell, Richland.
- Employee development training at WADE conference, support to Inland Empire Youth Natural Resources Camp, and tours of various District projects and future priority project concerns.



Construction of "J Vane" on Lower Yakima River

- Central Klickitat Conservation District

- Central Klickitat CD paid out \$18,070 in cost sharing water quality improvement projects. These included converting wheat/fallow ground to permanent cover and converting from conventional farming to direct seeding or no-till farming.



"Kids in the Creek" Education Program

- Chelan County Conservation District

- Recognizing the need for educated and informed citizens leading to proactive cooperators, the District used its Conservation Commission Implementation Grant funding primarily for education and outreach.
- One farm plan was developed and seven other landowners initiated plans or practices. Approximately 54 acres of forestland were replanted with more than 12,000 native plants as a result of the annual Tree Sale. The District played an active role in support of the Local Work Group for prioritization of federal program funds in the

region. Staff assisted with information and processing of 55 EQIP applications, which resulted in 35 contracts including \$673,000 in practices on 1,039 acres. Staff will assist with associated planning and BMP implementation in the coming year.

- Clallam Conservation District

- Installed heavy use area protection on a horse farm to prevent surface/groundwater contamination.
- Participated in watershed planning processes in three Water Resource Inventory Areas. Participated in NRCS Local Work Group process. Reviewed Dungeness Land Protection Strategies.
- Published a quarterly newsletter with distribution to 1,400 households; over 200 contacts made at fairs and other public outreach events.
- Information & technical assistance provided to 42 landowners.
- Cost shared on 0.5 acre of wetland habitat enhancement and windbreak/hedgerow planting.
- Provided \$1,247.31 in cost-share.

- Clark Conservation District

- 13,580 native trees and shrubs planted to enhance fish and wildlife habitat.
- We provided technical assistance for landowners throughout the county on native tree and shrub planting, best management and conservation practices, and other natural resource issues.



Watershed tour

- Columbia Conservation District

- Completed the final rotation in a 3-year direct seed contract encompassing 150 acres with a soil savings of 7,650 ton over the life of the contract. Benefits include soil retention at the source, reduction of sediment transport to and within ESA species listed streams, reduction of nutrient levels, and potential reduction of long-term water temperature.
- Installed 5 upland sediment control structures draining 574 acres with a potential soil erosion savings of 6,519 tons.

- Cowlitz Conservation District

- Our conservation partnership assisted 557 walk-in/call-in customers, conducted 39 field visits with landowners, prepared 10 conservation plans on 400 acres, and assisted 14 landowners with cost share funding to improve natural resources.
- Continuing to monitor 32 stream temperature sites and six air temperature sites to assist with the TMDL process in Cowlitz County watersheds.

- Eastern Klickitat Conservation District

- Eastern Klickitat CD paid out \$1074 in cost sharing water quality improvement projects. These included converting wheat/fallow ground to permanent cover, erosion seeding following a major wildfire, and converting from conventional farming to direct seeding or no-till farming.
- The tree and shrub program helps area landowners implement Best Management Practices on their land. This program helps them implement practices required for certain CRP and Continuous CRP contracts, as well as CREP for qualifying streams.
- Engineering assistance was provided by EKCD on 4 projects ranging from cattle watering facilities to stream enhancements.

- Ferry Conservation District

- One project continued to treat over one-half mile of the Kettle River, increasing fish and wildlife habitat, while protecting the banks and two pump stations, and preventing several tons of soil loss.
- Serving 7 cooperators by installing Best Management Practices (BMP) that will protect, enhance, and/or restore over a mile of lake and stream banks, and provided additional fish & wildlife habitat.



Stream channel revetment & riparian demonstration project

- Foster Creek Conservation District

- Continuation of biocontrol program to control invasive weed species. This has resulted in over 125 site visits with the improvement of water quality and habitat on eighty-nine properties within Douglas County.
- Photo monitoring on over 1,000 acres of biocontrol releases to ensure that BMP's are working properly.
- Stream monitoring on over one-hundred forty stream miles in Douglas County which will result in the improvement of riparian area along approximately fifty miles of stream in Douglas County.
- Surface and groundwater monitoring in Douglas County. This will result in the improvement of riparian areas, water quality, and water quantity along 487 acres of lakes and 20 wells in Douglas County.

- The continued development of a GIS database for Douglas County. This information has been used in assisting district personnel in developing farm plans and addressing several natural resource issues in Douglas County.

- Franklin Conservation District

- The FCD is working with dairy operators to demonstrate the use of low volume-high frequency manure applications to reduce potential nitrate contamination of the groundwater.
- Soil sampling to a depth of 10 feet is being conducted on 4 dryland field plots which have received up to four times the recommended nitrogen application rates. The goal is to assess whether nitrate migration in dryland production is of concern in the low rainfall zones.
- Crop water use charts were published weekly in 2 newspapers during the 2004 growing season.

- Grays Harbor Conservation District

- Worked with NRCS and District Cluster Engineer to complete planning and review process for dairy and cranberry producers cost share approved practices.
- Completed design work for solid set sprinkler system for the Grayland cranberry bog. Project will be implemented after fall harvest.
- Completed design work for upgrading irrigation system and ditch cribbing and covers for North Beach cranberry producer. Project will be implemented after fall harvest.
- Completed design work for buried mainline for dairy producer. Construction has begun.
- Provided \$8,750.00 in dairy cost share funds from 04 Water Quality Implementation grant to 2 cooperators to install NRCS approved BMP code 358 (waste transfer).



Dairy Nutrient Management



Salmon Creek Restoration Project

- Jefferson County Conservation District

- Provided technical assistance to 8 landowners for salmon habitat and water quality improvement project planning.
- Assisted NRCS with Environmental Quality Incentives Program, & the Local Work Group process.
- Technical assistance to North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC) resulting in 3,235 ft. of salmon habitat improvements in E. Chimacum Creek.
- Participation in WRIA 17 Watershed Planning efforts.
- Published a quarterly newsletter informing 600 recipients about CD water quality and habitat improvement efforts.
- Funds used to monitor water quality at 16 stations in Chimacum Cr. watershed, and provide results to agricultural landowners.

- King Conservation District

- Implemented 1 forest, 1 stream, 5 wetland, and 1 estuarine enhancement projects by installing 4000 native plants and 450 linear feet of livestock exclusion fencing.
- Designed 150-acre wetland restoration project for Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group restoration site.

- Kitsap Conservation District

- Water Quality Implementation funds accounted for:
 - 36 signed and approved cost share incentive program applications
 - \$23,925 in cost share reimbursements to 25 Kitsap County small farmers
 - 11,149 feet of livestock exclusion fencing
 - 14 waste storage structures, 4,872ft of underground pipelines, 385 ft of livestock crossings among others
 - Funding support for 10 BMP designs by the Olympic Cluster engineer

- *Water Quality Implementation funds supported Technical Service Provider contract development with NRCS.*

▪ Kittitas County Conservation District

- *See Local Funding below for the results of the PAM cost share activities. Water Quality Implementation funds utilized for cost share reached nearly \$2,500 (included in the total paid to landowners).*
- *Two Hundred and twenty GIS farm plan maps were provided to landowners for their use in conservation planning.*
- *KCCCD designed a gated pipe system to prevent the movement of sediment and bacteria into the irrigation water down slope of a feedlot. Material purchase occurred in FY03, practice installation occurred in the fall of 2003.*

	Acres Enrolled	Estimated Tons of Soil Saved	Cost Share Paid to Landowners
1999	933	1,314	\$ 1,852
2000	1,566	7,562	\$ 7,562
2001	2,737	12,418	\$ 7,327
2002	1,928	9,774	\$ 6,255
2003	1,702	8,190	\$ 4,769

- *Local Funding: The Kittitas County PAM Cost Share Program has resulted in thousands of tons of soil saved since the 1999 irrigation season. This program matches funds from the landowner, Kittitas County Public Works and the Conservation Commission through the implementation grants. In 2004, the KCCCD added PAM application devices as a cost sharable item with a 50% cost share rate and a \$150 cap.*

▪ Lewis County Conservation District

- *5291 feet of fencing for livestock exclusion from surface water.*
- *Cost share in the amount of \$9,929.66 reimbursed to 1 cooperator for 5291 feet of fencing.*

▪ Lincoln County Conservation District

- *The district was able to offer funding to 15 cooperators for cost-share BMP practices.*
- *Of the 15 cooperators one irrigation improvement system has been installed increasing the irrigation efficiency from 65% to 70%.*
- *An Hp Laptop Computer and portable printer were purchased. A digital video/camera was also purchased to help document projects and their functions. These documents will serve as an education/information tool for Lincoln County.*



Waterway implementation

▪ Mason Conservation District

- *Assisted 22 landowners with technical support.*
- *6 landowners were awarded cost share funds totaling approximately \$5,000.*
- *Over 1,800 feet of riparian fencing was constructed along with other BMPs.*



Tree & shrub planting and livestock exclusion

▪ North Yakima Conservation District

- *Monson Project Phase 2: Constructed three acres of wetlands and established 2700 feet of riparian habitat along Taylor Ditch (side channel of the Yakima River). BMP's included wetland plantings, tree and shrub plantings, weed abatement and fencing.*
- *Hargroves and Wright Projects: These two projects on adjacent properties on the Wenas Creek protected water quality and established buffers on Wenas Creek. BMP's included hardened crossings, tree and shrub plantings and livestock exclusion.*

- Okanogan Conservation District

- A spring was previously redirected out of a livestock yard. Additionally, a watering trough and 1,400' of pipeline was installed which created a half acre of wetland.
- 18 livestock and water quality project applications were ranked for cost-share assistance. The work on these projects is to begin in fall 2004 after completion of the landowners' field season.

- Pacific Conservation District

- Provided technical assistance in the implementation of riparian buffers, road decommissioning, culvert replacements, salmon recovery and cranberry BMPs.
- Provided technical assistance to 82 cooperators and/or groups, and 85 acres of riparian buffer were created. Technical assistance of on the ground projects encompassed over 60% of the total budget.
- Worked with local government and State Agencies to implement BMP's that will address a Lower and Upper TMDL on the Willapa River. Cattle Exclusion fencing, riparian plantings and the creation of small farm plans have been our highest priority. Livestock cattle crossings and livestock watering facilities have also been implemented to improve water quality on the Willapa River.



Tree & shrub plantings

- Palouse Conservation District

- Provided on-phone technical assistance to 148 customers, in-office technical assistance to 90 customers, and on-site technical assistance to 30 customers. The majority of this assistance related to conservation tree and shrub establishment (site inventory/assessment, weed control, wildlife damage control, etc.) and livestock conservation planning.

- Palouse Rock Lake Conservation District

- Installed wildlife watering guzzlers in partnership with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Inland Northwest Wildlife Council.



Engineered Log jam

- Assisted the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife with Pheasant releases.
- Maintaining an inventory of wildlife guzzlers, rain gauges, min-max thermometers, and other conservation materials for sale to cooperators.
- Planted 2600 upland wildlife trees and shrubs.

- Pend Oreille Conservation District

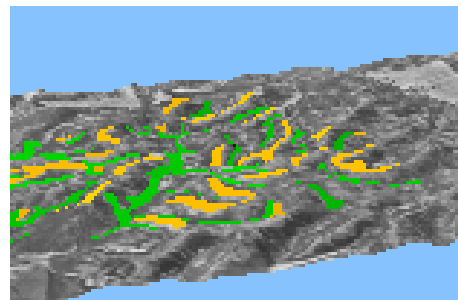
- Pend Oreille Conservation District partnered with WDFW and the US Fish and Wildlife Service and a landowner on Cedar Creek near Lone. The project site consisted of removing a triple road culvert, removing a log crib dam, installing rock vanes, an engineered log jam, sloping the sides of the creek and riparian replanting. (planting to be done in Spring of 2005) Grass seed and straw was placed down to help hold the soil together until larger plants can be placed.

- Pierce Conservation District

- Assisted in creation of local Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.
- Worked with 14 cooperators to install 13 Best Management Practices (BMP), protecting and enhancing over five acres of riparian wildlife habitat.

- Pine Creek Conservation District

- 300 acres of new filter strips designed and installed.
- 175 acres of new grass waterways designed and installed.



GIS planning for a combination of Contour Buffers (yellow) & Filter Strips (green)

- 2,714 acres of new CRP installed.
- 29 new CRP plans written.
- A major training effort was made this year with NRCS in order to provide better technical assistance in the planning and application of BMPs.
- A GPS was purchased, set up and integrated with GIS to provide better water quality inventories, on farm mapping and measurements, and better reporting of district progress.

▪ Pomeroy Conservation District

- Four funding sources were used this year to implement BMP practices to reduce upland erosion and improve the water quality of the streams within the Pomeroy CD. The funds used were from the Conservation Commission, Interagency for Outdoor Recreation, DOE, and BPA. Under these cost share funding sources the following practices were implemented. The following soil savings is calculated using the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE).
 - No-till Seeding – 1, 483.8 acres at a cost of \$20,824 saving 6,114 tons of soil
 - Direct Seeding – 1,487.6 acres at a cost of \$14,545 saving 7,278 tons of soil
 - Pasture and Hayland Planting – 74.4 acres at a cost of \$1,525 saving 179 tons of soil
 - Sediment Basins – 2 basins at a cost \$2,425
- Our five year no-till program ended this year. Two participants had problems with the invasion of Rattail Fescue and some weeds that seem to be building a resistance to herbicides and were not



Composting facility

able to finish the entire program. The invasion of these weeds and grasses continues to be a problem that several producers and alternative methods of control are being sought. A light cultivation seems to help control the Rattail Fescue and several farmers are using the two pass system rather than a complete no-till program. The cost sharing of upland conservation practices is reducing each year because the board of supervisors placed a 3-year limitation on no-till and direct seed to better distribute the limited funding between operators. Many of the operators in

our county have reached those limitations and are not eligible to receive further cost share for that practice. Even though our cost sharing of these practices has gone down, a majority of these farmers have adapted these practices into their regular farming operations. As new breakthroughs come about through research that address the problems listed above, new cost share may become available to those producers that have currently reached their limitation.

▪ San Juan County Conservation District

- Engaged 19 landowners in on-the-ground conservation planning and BMP implementation, assisting them with the following practices which are either implemented or planned/in progress:
 - 7,465 feet of fencing
 - 181.62 acres prescribed grazing
 - 184.8 acres use exclusion
 - 18.25 acres upland wildlife habitat management
 - 188.17 acres nutrient management
 - 9 manure composting or waste storage facilities
 - 4 roof runoff management systems
 - 7 acres of forest stand improvement
 - 3 acres filter strip
 - 2.5 acres irrigation system and irrigation water management
 - Other BMPs put in place or in progress: forage harvest management, heavy use area protection, brush management, waste utilization, pest management, riparian forest buffer, solar powered irrigation system.
- Provided general technical assistance to over 150 additional landowners.



Streambank plantings

- Skagit Conservation District
 - *Nine small farm conservation plans were completed.*
 - *Four pasture management plans were completed.*
 - *SCD personnel provided technical assistance to 14 landowners for the following design/implementation projects that included best management practices, such as a solid waste structure, roof water diversion, an alternative watering system, and sacrifice areas.*
 - *The District distributed \$8,000 in cost-share funds to assist in bmp implementation.*
 - *A six-week short course entitled “Living on the Land – Stewardship for Small Acreages” was designed and presented to 21 landowners who live in the Padilla, Samish, and Skagit Watersheds.*
- Snohomish Conservation District
 - *SCD worked with a DOE violation landowner and has achieved great improvements on this farm including the installation of a waster storage structure.*
 - *SCD staff completed the following water quality practices on small farms: 1700 feet of fencing installed, 1960 feet of underground outlet and 8 roof runoff structures were installed.*
- South Douglas Conservation District
 - *By having the equipment available to district operators, less soil and wind erosion occurred. 888 acres tilled. New ripper purchased for use by cooperators.*
 - *Annual Tree and Shrub sale. Plants for windbreaks, erosion control, wildlife enhancement and beautification are available. Native and adaptive plants.*
- South Yakima Conservation District
 - *The Water Quality Implementation Grant is used in conjunction with existing district grants that provide education, outreach, and technical assistance for the landowners, while this grant provides the cost-share incentive to implement BMP's.*
 - *SYCD received over 60 project applications for the 2004-2005 grant cycle and only 18 projects could be funded. To date, 9 landowners have converted from a rill irrigation system to a sprinkler system on 92 acres, one conversion to a drip system on 8 acres, and one pasture rehab on 20.8 acres. High priority BMP implementation includes upgrading irrigation systems, improving pastures through reseeding, cross-fencing, or aeration, pasture management, and fencing livestock away from drains.*



Streambank rehabilitation

- Spokane County Conservation District
 - *Completed 5 RMS farm plans on 5,484 acres - Installed one 5,000 ft. grassed waterway - Constructed two sediment basins - Collected 35 water quality samples - Sponsored and organized one water quality workshop with 20 2nd and 6th graders attended - Completed one culvert replacement project.*
- Stevens County Conservation District
 - *626 water quality samples were taken in WRIA 59 resulting in the analysis of 2,574 samples.*
 - *The District contracted with the Biological Engineering Systems Department of Washington State University to complete the Pingston Creek Watershed Planning Project.*
- Thurston Conservation District
 - *40 landowners utilized our ground-driven manure spreader to implement nutrient management.*
 - *We provided 138 landowners with soil test analysis and proper nutrient application rates.*
 - *We conducted water quality testing on 3 streams to monitor/evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs.*



Water quality testing

- Underwood Conservation District

- *Planting of 400 trees under Cost-share program in the White Salmon watershed that help shade district streams.*
- *Maintenance of 9,100 feet of fence in Rattlesnake creek drainage, helping to keep cattle from the creek and enhancing water quality.*
- *Coordination of 14 meetings of Jewett Creek Streamkeepers and White Salmon River Watershed Management Committees, providing forums for information exchange, project review, and landowner education.*

- *Monthly monitoring of 4 piezometers, shallow ground-water wells, in upper Snyder creek watershed (Klickitat River).*

- Upper Grant Conservation District (Administering district for the following cluster of conservation districts: Upper Grant, Warden, Othello and Moses Lake)

- *Provided Technical Assistance and Administration to contract \$592,329.70 in IWM (Irrigation Water Management) Cost Share to growers of Grant Co. and the irrigated portion of Adams Co. thru GWMA/EPA funding impacting approximately 56,000 acres.*
- *Establish and maintain an annual database for IWM signups.*
- *Developed 39 CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) plans totaling 6100 acres.*
- *Provided Technical Assistance to implement requirements of 53 CRP plans.*
- *Provided Technical Assistance for 80 EQIP (Environmental Quality Improvement Program) and 15 WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program) contracts within the NRCS Big Bend Team.*
- *Provided Technical Assistance and Plan development for 50 EQIP IWM plans for the Black Sands area of Grant County impacting 21,411 acres.*
- *Provided 292 GIS maps for growers, local field days, WSCC tour, and various government entities.*
- *Provided GIS assistance to Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District.*
- *Participated in the Grant County GIS Users' Meetings and the Central Washington GIS Users' Meetings.*
- *Grant County Crop ID Project including field boundaries and irrigation types over 400 Grant County fields.*
- *Participated in LWG (Local Working Group) meetings to prioritize and direct funding in area.*



Pivot system implemented by landowner for water quality

- Wahkiakum Conservation District:

- *Our conservation partnership assisted 43 walk-in/call-in customers, conducted 23 field visits with landowners, and prepared 2 conservation plans covering 89 acres, and is assisting 6 landowners with cost share to improve natural resources.*
- *We are continuing to monitor stream and air temperature in priority watershed to assist with TMDL process. Twenty-one (21) stream temperature sites and six (6) air temperature sites are being managed in Wahkiakum County watersheds*

- Walla Walla County Conservation District

- *Water Quality funds were used to leverage state funds at a 1 to 4 ratio to ensure the success of three district programs.*
 - *This year we completed the Four Schools project, installing riparian buffers and making instream improvements to critical streams that run through local school district properties. The project reduces chemical runoff, improves water quality, and provides state of the art in-stream habitat for endangered fish using the waterway, as well as providing an outdoor classroom.*



Conservation district staff led this kindergarten class in learning about watershed concepts

- The sediment reduction program is reducing sediment transfer to area waterways at a rate of 342 tons per year.
- Water Quality funds provide program matching funds for the Screening program.

■ Whatcom Conservation District

- Provided technical assistance and coordination in support of a Bertrand Watershed Improvement District.
- Began coordination with drainage improvement districts to guide re-establishment of vegetated riparian corridors as part of a four-year grant in partnership with Whatcom County. District directed channel maintenance and re-vegetation efforts for 41,700 lineal feet of stream bank that included 33,450 plants during the 2003-04 planting season.

■ Whidbey Island Conservation District

- On the Krug Farm along Maxwellton Creek on South Whidbey, WICD is in process of cost-share funding over 1000' of exclusion fencing with an average 25' buffer along the creek to keep livestock out of the salmon stream.
- One surface drainage system, one brush management system, and two roof runoff structures were installed on the Magidson Farm. Previously, water ran off the barn into livestock paddocks and manure storage area.
- 6,500 feet of fencing installed on small farms.
- 6 acres of forage harvest management completed and 1.3 acres have been planted for pasture.
- Installed over 13 heavy use area protection practices and over 13 manure composting systems.
- Provided general technical assistance to over 50 landowners on Whidbey Island.

■ Whitman Conservation District

- Technical assistance provided to 4 livestock operators for review of the Department of Ecology's water concerns with the livestock operations.
- Continued 30 miles stream assessment on Alkali Flat Creek, Almota Creek and Penawawa Creek for limiting factors for drainage to the Snake River.
- Technical and financial assistance provided through the newly developed District Cost-Share Program to 14 landowners resulting in 16 wildlife cisterns, 2 spring developments, 2 roof runoff management systems, and a wildlife habitat planting to be installed improving water quality by reducing access to the Palouse River and Snake River drainages.
- 658 Customers were assisted by phone or in-person.
- Participation in WRIA 34 and WRIA 35 Planning Sessions.
- Participation in the Palouse Sub-Basin Planning with Palouse Rock Lake CD, and participation in the Snake Sub-Basin Planning with Pomeroy CD.



Conservation Reserve Program

Washington Conservation Districts Assisting Land Managers With Their Conservation Choices